

**Evergreen Fire District
Board of Trustees
Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Regular Board Meeting of July 1st, 2019 – 6:00 pm**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Verworn calls meeting to order at 6:09 pm.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Brodie Verworn	Jack Fallon
Randy DePaul	Tony Brockman

RECOGNIZE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Chief Williams	Irina Korchmar	Cole Williams
Fire Marshall Covington	Dave Adams	

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(At this time, public may comment on any public matter that is not on the Agenda of the Meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the District.)

Fire Chief Williams thanks Trustees for approving the maximum amount of 5.4% in regard to his raise but asks that the Board considers approving less than the maximum of 5%. His reason is that he is not comfortable with receiving maximum because that leaves no room for improvement and he is not comfortable with then having to evaluate his employees with that belief that 'there is always room for improvement'. Chairman Verworn states the topic will be included on the agenda for August.

FINANCIALS:

Discuss and Approve May 2019 Financials

*Motion; Fallon to approve the checks and accept the financial statements for the month of May, 2019 as presented
Second; DePaul*

Vote; all in favor; motion carries.

PAST ITEMS/UPDATES:

1. Discuss and Approve Meeting Minutes for Regular Board Meeting of June 3rd, 2019

*Motion; Fallon to approve the regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2019 as presented; Second;
Brockman; Vote; all in favor; motion carries.*

2. Employee Classification Update

Attorney Christopherson has identified 10 classifications as opposed to the 3 that are currently recognized in the Policy Handbook. Currently, all personnel work 36 hours and is classified as part-time with the exception of Fire Chief, Fire Marshall and Administrative Assistant; everyone will go to full-time status which is a change in the classification. There are also classifications by individual positions through shift fire fighter / EMT's. The attorney is still determining exemptions of the positions of Fire Chief and Fire Marshall regarding salary vs. hourly wage due to both Craig and Ben responding to EMS calls as EMT's. Chief Williams states the attorney feels it can go either way but is waiting for her to put her thoughts on paper so he can weigh the pros and cons of each; wage and salary. He expects to have a resolution ready within a week and requests Trustees be open to a special meeting later in the month. He reminds Trustees that the 30 day notification of personnel of any policy changes was omitted in the addendum which stated the policy handbook would expire. He states he feels that personnel should still be given notice of any policy changes that affect them and asks the Board what they feel the time frame should be. Brockman asks Chief Williams if he is comfortable with the matrix he (Chief Williams) provided to Trustees and Chief Williams states that he is not uncomfortable although he had initially thought some classifications were unnecessary. However, the attorney wants to ensure that classifications will not have to be revisited in the future so is including all possible employment classifications.

3. Selling Station 82 Discussion

Fallon has the opinion that Station 82 is a 'glorified storage shed' and should be sold for approximately \$300,000 to help pay for a needed fire engine regardless of projected population growth over the next 10 years; especially to the North. He states that Kalispell has proven that running personnel out of 2 fire stations is not efficient or cost effective. Chief Williams states that he fundamentally disagrees with Fallon and states that paying cash for everything has helped put the District in the position that it's in currently. He states that financing an engine really isn't an option in his opinion and that the passage of the recent levy will help in qualifying for financing in the future. Verworn asks that if all Trustees agreed to sell Station 82; are they allowed to and Chief Williams and Fallon confirm yes because it is an asset of the District and can be declared surplus and sold. Brockman asks if current financing options have been sought and Chief Williams states he and Covington are already in progress with researching those options and continue with the discussion once the budget is approved.

4. Final Budget

RESOLUTIONS:

2019-07 Budget Approval for Fund 7207 Hydrant Account FY2020

Motion; Fallon to approve Hydrant Account 7207; second; Brockman; vote is unanimous, motion carries

2019-08 Budget Approval for Fund 7250 Capital Outlay Account FY2020

Fallon states there is \$450,000 budgeted for an engine with range of \$400,000 to \$500,000. Chief Williams confirms and states he is comfortable with the amount. Fallon asks if there is any value out of engine #832 and Chief Williams states maybe in scrap. For Trustees clarification Chief Williams states both red and white engines have been referred to as #831 with the white engine (newer) being the one to get rid of due to costing the District approximately \$100,000 in repairs. Fallon notes that the transfer of \$210,000 from 7204 will be equivalent of 12.54 mills and will need clear instructions of what the basis is for the change. He states it should be an administrative process without debate because the amount that can be transferred will be given when the District gets the approved budget back from the County.

Motion; Fallon for approval of budget for 7250; second; Brockman; vote; unanimous, motion carries

2019-09 Budget Approval for Fund 7288 Repayment Account FY2020

Fallon amends the second sheet of the final budget for 7288 'Tax Revenue, Mill Levy, \$330,000' to \$320,000 with the reason being the cash reserve showing \$171,000 will be \$157,000 at the end of this year according to County.

Motion; Fallon for approval of Fund 7288 with a change of tax revenue being \$320,000 instead of \$330,000; second; DePaul; vote; unanimous, motion carries.

2019-10 Budget Approval for Benevolent Fund FY2020

Motion; Fallon for approval of Benevolent Fund as presented; second; Brockman; vote; unanimous, motion carries.

2019-11 Budget Approval for Fund 4212 Department Account FY2020

Motion; Fallon for approval of Fund 4212 Department Account as presented; second; DePaul; vote; unanimous, motion carries.

2019-12 Budget Approval for Fund 7204 General Fund Account FY 2020

(no action taken after discussion of resolution verbiage regarding mills)

2019-13 Budget Approval for Fund 9428 Ambulance Account FY 2020

(no action taken after discussion regarding combining EMS (9428) and Fire (7204) accounts)

NEW ITEMS/UPDATES:

1. 2018 Audit

Chief Williams states Don Davies did have a disclosure finding that was approved legislatively 6 months after having the station construction in the bond and were grandfathered in. However, if the District refinances State Law requires a disclosure notice given to creditors and others or the District will have to pay a severe penalty fee. Chief Williams states audit findings state \$10,000 is owed from Hydrant Fund 7207 to CIP.